Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-16. (Canceled)

17. (New) A method for producing a conductor paste comprising:

preparing a conductive metal powder made of a noble metal or an alloy based on a noble metal;

classifying said powder with a centrifugal separator such that the classified powder having an average particle size of 0.8μm or less, and a ratio (D_{50}/D_{min}) of a medium value D_{50} of the particle size to a minimum value D_{min} of detectable particle sizes of 1 to 5 can be obtained; and

mixing said powder and an organic vehicle such that a conductor paste having a ration (V_{1rpm}/V_{10rpm}) of a viscosity V_{1rpm} measured under conditions at 1 rpm with a spindle No. 4 with a Brookfield rotational viscometer and a viscosity V_{10rpm} measured under conditions at 10 rpm with a spindle No. 4 from 2 to 5, and containing the powder in a mass ratio of 80 mass % or more can be obtained.

18. (New) The method according to claim 17, wherein the viscosity ratio is adjusted by mixing a viscosity modifier.

19. (New) The method according to claim 18, wherein the viscosity modifier is mixed in a ratio of 0.05 to 3 parts by mass with respect to 100 parts by mass of the conductive powder.

20. (New) The method according to claim 19, wherein the viscosity modifier is one or at least two plasticizer selected from the group consisting of dioctylphthalate, dioctyladipate, and dibutylphthalate.

21. (New) The method according to claim 17, wherein the powder and the organic vehicle is mixed such that the conductor paste having the viscosity V_{1rpm} of 200 to 700 Pa·s, and the viscosity V_{10rpm} of 100 to 300 Pa·s can be obtained.

22. (New) The method according to claim 17, wherein a solvent constituting the organic vehicle has a boiling point of 230 to 260°C.

23. (New) The method according to claim 22, wherein the solvent comprises one or at least two selected from the group consisting of butyl carbitol, butyl carbitol acetate, and 2,2,4-trimethyl-1,3-pentanediol monoisobutyrate.

24. (New) The method according to claim 17, wherein the conductive powder is made of silver or an alloy based on silver.

25. (New) The method according to claim 17, wherein the classification is performed such that the classified powder having D_{50} of about 0.3μm and D_{min} of about 0.06 to 0.25μm can be obtained.

26. (New) The method according to claim 17, wherein the classification is performed such that the classified powder having D_{50} of about 0.7μm and D_{min} of about 0.14 to 0.6μm can be obtained.

27. (New) The method according to claim 17, wherein:

the conductive powder is made of silver or an alloy based on silver;

the classification is performed such that the classified powder having D_{50} of about 0.3μm and D_{min} of about 0.06 to 0.25μm can be obtained;

the powder and the organic vehicle is mixed such that the conductor paste having the viscosity V_{10rpm} of 100 to 300 Pa·s and the viscosity ratio of 3 to 4 can be obtained;

the viscosity ratio of the paste is adjusted by mixing a viscosity modifier;

the viscosity modifier is mixed in a ratio of 1.5 to 3 parts by mass with respect to 100 parts by mass of the conductive powder;

the paste comprising 1.5 to 2 parts by mass of ethyl cellulose as a viscosity modifier with respect to 100 parts by mass of the conductive powder; and

a solvent constituting the organic vehicle is one or at least two selected from the group consisting of butyl carbitol, butyl carbitol acetate, and 2,2,4-trimethyl-1,3-pentanediol monoisobutyrate.

28. (New) The method according to claim 17, wherein the paste further comprises 0.5 to 1 parts by mass of dioctylphthalate as a viscosity modifier with respect to 100 parts by mass of the conductive powder.

29. (New) A method for producing an electronic component comprising a base material on which a film conductor is formed, comprising the steps of:

preparing a conductive metal powder made of a noble metal or an alloy based on a noble metal;

classifying said powder with a centrifugal separator such that the classified powder having an average particle size of 0.8μm or less, and a ratio (D_{50}/D_{min}) of a medium value D_{50} of the particle size to a minimum value D_{min} of detectable particle sizes of 1 to 5 can be obtained;

mixing said powder and an organic vehicle such that a conductor paste having a ration (V_{1rpm}/V_{10rpm}) of a viscosity V_{1rpm} measured under conditions at 1 rpm with a spindle No. 4 with a Brookfield rotational viscometer and a viscosity V_{10rpm} measured under conditions at 10 rpm with a spindle No. 4 from 2 to 5, and containing the powder in a mass ratio of 80 mass % or more can be obtained;

attaching the conductor paste onto the base material; and

firing the attached conductor paste.

30. (New) The method according to claim 29, wherein in the attaching step, the conductor paste is attached to the base material by screen printing.

31. (New) The method according to claim 29, wherein the base material is a glass substrate.

32. (New) The method according to claim 29, wherein the firing step is performed at a maximum firing temperature of 600 to 900°C.